MINUTES OF MEETING

Second Organizational Meeting Chicot Aquifer Stakeholders (CASH) Clifton Chenier Community Center, 220 West Willow, Lafayette, Louisiana August 26, 2004 6:00 p.m

- 1. The second organizational meeting of the Chicot Aquifer Stakeholders (CASH) was held at 6:00 p.m., August 26, 2004, at the Clifton Chenier Community Center, 220 West Willow Street, Lafayette, Louisiana. Attendance sheets compiled at the door listed approximately twenty attendees.
- 2. Opening remarks were made by Mr. Don Broussard, Manager of Water Operations for the Lafayette Utilities System. Further comments about the reasons for forming CASH were added by Dr. Tim Duex, Professor of Geology with the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. Dr. Bruce Darling, a water quality consultant with LGB-Guyton and Associates, was also present. Brent Sonnier, an attorney practicing in the field of water rights law with the Onebane Law Firm is on the panel but was unable to attend.
- 3. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussing plans for organizing a Chicot Aquifer Stakeholders (CASH) group and to inform the attendees of the progress of the Louisiana Ground Water Resources Commission (GWRC). Mr. Jackie Loewer, Chicot Aquifer representative on the GWRC, gave a brief summary of the Commission's meeting on Monday, August 23, 2004. A brief discussion ensued.
- 4. Mr. Broussard then moved on to old business where the first item concerned the boundaries of the Chicot Aquifer. Mr. Anthony Duplechin of the Water Resources Division in the Office Conservation, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, stated that the boundaries of the aquifer should be based on published maps. It was suggested that the boundaries be determined by the distribution of geological (rock) units on maps produced by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Mr. John Lovelace of the USGS Baton Rouge office noted that it would be difficult to group the Chicot Aquifer with other aquifers but that there was some degree of overlap of various rock units and aquifers in Louisiana. It was also noted that the Jasper Aquifer and Evangeline Aquifer underlie the Chicot Aquifer, but neither of these are considered "major" aquifers. Dr. Bruce Darling pointed out that the consultants' report to the original GWRC in 2003 included a map showing the Chicot Aquifer was included in Planning Region 2. There was a limited discussion and it was this latter idea seemed to be the most acceptable.
- 5. The next item of discussion concerned membership in CASH. It was generally agreed that, as of now, CASH is an informal body and therefore has no formal membership but that all interested parties are encouraged to participate in meetings. Once the group is officially established by the GWRC and the Commissioner, membership can be formally established. Mr. Larry DeRoussel of the Lake Area Industry Alliance in Lake Charles suggested that CASH should attempt to come up with a list of potential members or groups that should be represented on this body. For example, he thought that there would be four potential members from the

Calcasieu Parish area. It was agreed that at the next meeting we as a group should create a list of potential members that could be presented to the GWRC.

- 5. Under New Business, Don Broussard reviewed the Proposed Rules for establishing a Regional Water Resources Advisory Group such as CASH that were presented by the Ground Water Resources Division of the Office of Conservation at the meeting of the GWRC on Monday, August 23, 2004. There was a brief discussion of the proposed rules and there were several suggested changes or additions. Mr. Anthony Duplechin emphasized that the rules were definitely a work in progress and that the suggested changes would be considered for adoption. Membership, boundaries, and terms of office for members were a few of the points that were debated.
- 9. Dr. Douglas Carlson of the Louisiana Geological Survey at LSU commented on 3-D models such as the one that he and other members of the Geological Survey are working on for the Chicot Aquifer. He discussed their uses and how they might be beneficial for municipalities and other entities. He agreed that the basic idea for forming a regional body such as CASH would be to gather all available data in one place.
- 10. Potential funding sources for the various functions envisioned for CASH were once again discussed. Mr. Don Broussard stated that Lafayette Consolidated Government is only a temporary source in the group's organizational phase but that it would continue to provide a meeting place and refreshments. Dr. Tim Duex pointed out that UL Lafayette is allowing CASH to use it as a mailing address, at least temporarily. Suggestions of other funding sources from the panel were alliances with governmental agencies such as the USGS, and UL.
- 11. Mr. Don Broussard raised the point of using an outside facilitator to help come up with objectives, rules, bylaws, etc. Mr. Larry Deroussel noted that having an independent facilitator would help speed up the process of getting things done and ultimately lead to the formation of an independent group. The cost for such services would vary from around \$800 to \$2,000 per meeting for a possible total of about \$5,000. Sources for funding this are to looked into by various members of the group. It was suggested that UL Lafayette may have public facilitators that could be used.
- 12. As a final matter, the next meeting was set for September 22, 2004 at 2:00 p.m., in Lake Charles at a location to be determined.

[Minutes compiled by Tim Duex]